AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing Of Claims:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) In a computer application program for editing an electronic document comprising one or more markup language tags, a method for editing the electronic document, the method comprising:

associating a placeholder with one or more of the markup language tags; and

displaying the placeholder for each of the one or more markup language tags that is empty while operating in an editing mode in which the markup language tags are not displayed wherein displaying the placeholder further comprises,

receiving a selection of typed data in the electronic document while operating in the editing mode in which the markup language tags are not displayed, the typed data being associated with the placeholder for a tag;

receiving a delete request for the typed data; and

in response to receiving the delete request, removing the typed data and inserting the placeholder for the tag associated with the typed data,

and wherein displaying the placeholder further comprises,

determining a text identifying a name for the one or more of the markup language tags associated with the placeholder, the text identifying the name being defined in one of the following: a schema library and a configuration file,

determining whether a user-defined text string has been previously defined by a user,

setting the placeholder equal to the user-defined text string if it was determined that the user-defined text string has been previously defined by the user, and

setting the placeholder equal to the text identifying the name for the one or more of the markup language tags associated with the placeholder if it was determined that the user-defined text string has not been previously defined by the user.

2.-4.   (Canceled)

5.   (Currently Amended) The method of Claim [[4]] 1, further comprising removing the placeholder while operating in an editing mode in which the markup language tags are displayed.

6.   (Original) The method of Claim 5, further comprising:

receiving a selection of the placeholder for a tag while operating in the editing mode in which the markup language tags are not displayed;

receiving typed data following the selection of the placeholder for the tag; and

in response to receiving the typed data, removing the placeholder for the tag and inserting the typed data within the tag.

7.   (Original) The method of Claim 6, further comprising:

receiving a selection of the placeholder for a tag while operating in the editing mode in which the markup language tags are not displayed;

receiving a delete request following the selection of the placeholder for the tag; and

in response to receiving the delete request, deleting the tag and the placeholder for the tag from the electronic document.

8.   (Original) A computer-readable medium having computer-executable instructions stored thereon which, when executed by a computer, cause the computer to perform the method of Claim 1.

9.   (Original) A computer-controlled apparatus capable of performing the method of Claim 1.

10.   (Currently Amended) In a computer application program for editing an electronic document comprising one or more markup language tags, a method for editing the electronic document, the method comprising:

providing a first editing mode in which the one or more markup language tags are displayed;

providing a second editing mode in which the markup language tags are not displayed;

while operating in the second editing mode, determining whether any of the

markup language tags are empty; and

in response to determining that one or more of the tags are empty, displaying a

placeholder for each empty tag while operating in the second editing mode wherein

displaying the placeholder further comprises,

receiving a selection of typed data in the electronic document while

operating in the second editing mode in which the markup language tags are not

displayed, the typed data being associated with the placeholder for a tag;

receiving a delete request for the typed data; and

in response to receiving the delete request, removing the typed data and inserting the

placeholder for the tag associated with the typed data, and wherein displaying the

placeholder further comprises,

determining a text identifying a name for the one or more of the markup

language tags associated with the placeholder,

determining whether a user-defined text string has been previously

defined by a user,

setting the placeholder equal to the user-defined text string if it was

determined that the user-defined text string has been previously defined by the

user, and

setting the placeholder equal to the text identifying the name for the one or

more of the markup language tags associated with the placeholder if it was

determined that the user-defined text string has not been previously defined by

the user.

11.   (Canceled)

12.   (Currently Amended) The method of Claim ~~11~~ 10, further comprising not displaying the placeholders while operating in the first editing mode.

13.   (Original) The method of Claim 12, further comprising:

receiving a selection of the placeholder for a tag;

receiving typed data following the selection of the placeholder for the tag; and

in response to receiving the typed data, removing the placeholder for the tag and inserting the typed data within the tag.

14.   (Original) The method of Claim 13, further comprising:

determining whether the typed data has been removed; and

in response to determining that the typed data has been removed, displaying the placeholder for the tag while operating within the second editing mode.

15.   (Canceled)

16.   (Currently Amended) The method of Claim ~~15~~ 14, further comprising:

receiving the selection of the placeholder for a tag;

following receipt of the selection of the placeholder, receiving a request to move the tag to a destination location within the electronic document; and

moving the tag and the selected placeholder to the destination location in response to the request.

17.   (Original) The method of Claim 16, wherein the request to move the tag comprises a drag and drop operation.

18.   (Original) The method of Claim 17, further comprising:

exposing a property for each tag in the electronic document, wherein the property for each tag may be programmatically set for each tag in the electronic document to assign a placeholder to the tag.

19.   (Original) The method of Claim 18, further comprising:

exposing a property for the electronic document, wherein the property for the electronic document may be set to cause the placeholders to be displayed when operating in the second editing mode.

20.   (Currently Amended) The method of Claim ~~11~~ 10, wherein the text is defined in a XSD schema file.

21.   (Currently Amended) The method of Claim ~~11~~ 10, wherein the text is defined in a schema library.

22.   (Original) The method of Claim 21, wherein the text is defined in a configuration file.

23.   (Original) A computer-readable medium having computer-executable instructions stored thereon which, when executed by a computer, cause the computer to perform the method of Claim 10.

24.   (Original) A computer-controlled apparatus capable of performing the method of Claim 10.

25.   (New) A method for editing an electronic document comprising one or more markup language tags, the method comprising:

associating a placeholder with one or more of the markup language tags; and

displaying the placeholder for each of the one or more markup language tags that is empty while operating in an editing mode in which the markup language tags are not displayed wherein displaying the placeholder further comprises,

determining a text identifying a name for the one or more of the markup language tags associated with the placeholder, the text identifying the name being defined in one of the following: a schema library and a configuration file,

determining whether a user-defined text string has been previously defined by a user,

setting the placeholder equal to the user-defined text if it was determined that the user-defined text string has been previously defined by the user, and

setting the placeholder equal to the text identifying the name for the one or more of the markup language tags associated with the placeholder if it was determined that the user-defined text string has not been previously defined by the user.

26.   (New) The method of Claim 25, further comprising removing the placeholder while operating in an editing mode in which the markup language tags are displayed.

27.   (New) The method of Claim 25, wherein the user-defined text includes at least one of the following: images, shapes, and any other type of content that is available in an editing environment.

28.   (New) The method of Claim 1, wherein the user-defined text includes at least one of the following: images, shapes, and any other type of content that is available in an editing environment.

29.   (New) The method of Claim 10, wherein the user-defined text includes at least one of the following: images, shapes, and any other type of content that is available in an editing environment.